GARRISON MSS.

Baltimore, July 7, 1828.

Sir:

I arrived here on Saturday last, after the tedious passage of 14 days – we having had, for the most part of the time, very boisterous weather, and considerable head winds. The evening we sailed from Boston, a very heavy gale of wind tore our foretopsail, maintopsail, and jibs, besides rendering other considerable damage. We were thus obliged to put in at Hyana Heads, for the purpose of repairing our tattered sails, where we remained two days, the winds and the weather conspiring against us. – I felt peculiarly disappointed in not witnessing the celebration of our national independence in Baltimore – having arrived here the next day after.

You must imagine my sensations on beholding a dearly beloved mother, after an absence of seven years. – I found her in tears – but, O God, so altered, so emaciated, that I should never have recognised her, had I not known that there were none else in the room. Instead of the tall, robust woman, blooming in health, which I saw last, she is now bent up by "fell disease", pined away to almost a skeleton, and unable to walk. She is under the necessity of being bolstered up in bed, being incompetent to lie down, as it would immediately choke her. A very large swelling has gathered on her right shoulder, which the Physician thinks is a collection of deleterious matter, and continues to increase in size. – He says it will be absolutely necessary to have it cut open, for the purpose of drawing the matter off – for that, if it is not done, it will soon break inwardly, and prove fatal. The operation is indeed very critical, and I tremble for the result. If it is fortunate, he thinks it will be the means of restoring her in a great measure to health again, and destroying the inward humors – if vice versa, she will not probably survive long. All her friends earnestly wish her to have the operation done – and from the known skill of the physician in surgery, it is believed it will result happily.

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I feel very much pleased with Baltimore, and the flattering reception I have had - still I cannot love it as I do the home of my childhood. There are here a large number of elegant buildings and monuments, which do credit to the enterprising citizens of Baltimore, and will be lasting mementos of their spirited efforts in beautifying the city. Among the most prominent of these are the Cathedral, Unitarian Church, Exchange, Shot Tower, Washington Monument, a monument for those who were slain at the battle of North Point, with their names inscribed thereon, and a large number of other elegant works, with which I am not acquainted. The Cathedral is the most beautiful building here; and, indeed, it is thought, in the United States. - It has been about 121 years in building, and not yet finished! An enormous sum has been expended on this Church. Contributions have been received from all parts of the world, given by Roman Catholics. Naples, alone, it is said, has contributed over 100,000 dollars. Washington Monument is 160 or 170 feet, highly, but not yet finished. - is built round, and in the most elegant manner. A bust of Washington is to be brought from Italy, and placed on the top of the same - this has also been several years in building, and is situated in one of the most beautiful parts in Baltimore.

You wished me to call at No. 1, Cornhill, and ask Mr. Carter for some more leads for the paper. - This I intended to have done: but, after wandering about 2 or 3 hours, and enquiring of 20 different persons, (none of whom, however, would take the trouble to show me,) I was forced to give up in despair. - Being totally unacquainted with Boston, and never there before, I got lost several times in my travels - so that all was perplexity. Indeed, I felt truly homesick in being one short day in Boston. - I was sea-sick but about 15 minutes on my passage. I have nothing elde particular to write at present.

Yours, respectfully, Wm. L. Garrison.

Mr. Ephraim W. Allen,

Editor of the Herald,

Newburyport, (Mass.)

Wm. L. Garrison
July 7/23

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